

Owhango School News

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that we were applying for grants to build a skate park. We were informed that we were successful by Lotteries in December! It has been all go since then, with the final design and technical drawings being done over the summer break, and the groundwork starting on day one of the school year. We now have the foundations being built, with the work expected to be completed on this \$300,000 project by end of April.

Once completed, it will be suitable for scooters, roller skates, skateboards, and bikes to use. I need to emphasise here that we consider the school playground to be the community playground- we welcome the community to use our grounds out of school time.

We just ask that you do this with respect- take away any litter or dog faeces, and be considerate of our neighbours by not using before 8am or after 8pm.



Our other property news is that we have an extra teacher this year, meaning we have an extra classroom- with our old staffroom being converted into a classroom. Consequently, we are working with the Ministry of Education architects to build a new staffroom within the building- by converting the cleaners cupboard, corridor and junior toilets into a staffroom. We hope to have this work completed by the end of this year. Over summer the school pool had a lot of use. We are coming to the end of our swimming lesson season and are pleased with the progress the children have made with learning to swim. Once the pool is closed we will be emptying it and removing the build up of scale on the surface, before refilling it, so it is ready for next season.

We will also be replacing the toilet as it is due for an upgrade. I hope people noticed the blue mats in the changing rooms, put there so you don't have to stand on puddles as you get changed.

The solar heating system continues to work well and keeps the pool at a warmer temperature. Thanks to the community members who purchased a key and made use of our pool this season; these can now be returned to the office for your refund.

Owhango Directory

Blue Hill Café
Coffee, Food
07 8954541

Brad Galloway
Painting
021526556

Brett
Repairs/odd jobs
0211033206

Brian Goodwin
Plumbing
07 8966000

Dean Harriman
Builder

Dean Johnson
Builder
027100219

Emma Ross
Electrician
0278201424

Forest Lodge
Accommodation
0272184713

FoxgloveToni Grass
Curtains blinds and
picture framing
0276353262

Jack Faulkner
Graphic Design
0226436131

Jack Kimberly
Logging
07 8954459

Jit Van
Graphic Design
0276491289

Jim Paul
Builder
0275566660

Karen Nisbet
Graphic designer
for small businesses
022 391 4505

Ryan Ogle
Engineer
0273052783

Mandy Pritt
Hair Studio
07 8954532

Owhango Adventures
0276786461

Owhango Motors
Vehicle Workshop
07 8954726

Owhango Pub
07 895 4854
reception@
owhangohotel.co.nz

Pat Lacy
Stock Agent
0274953564

Petco Contracts Ltd
Earth moving
Neil Peterson
0272664880

Pete Jacobson
Lawnmowing
027 7157896

Peter Brennan
Property Maintenance
0274449822

Reuben Hardwidge
Carpet and flooring
0277488361

Robbie Stewart
Tree felling services
0273903938

Wayne Stewart
Builder
0274784466

Mail boxes
Tui
0273927801

Rural delivery
Rachel Brown
07 8954466

John Alker
Painting
0210675200

Charm Thai
Thai takeaways
(Wednesday's in Owhango
Colin and Nithinan Barnett
Phone: 027 272 0863 or 027
352 7559
Charmthainz@gmail.com

Barry Donovan
Landscaping
0274226780



What's in our community

We welcome new residents to Owhango. As the local community Owhango residents and rate payers society group, we look forward to meeting you at some stage.



Fantails - This is a lady's get together, we meet once a week for some sharing and laughter. Meet at 7 pm every Thursday at Owhango Pavilion. We play cards or do craft work whatever the group likes to do, and not to forget having a cup of tea. A gold coin donation is appreciated, so come along and enjoy time out.

Blue Hill Café SH4 Owhango - Open 8am-2pm
Open 7 days week.

Owhango Volunteer Fire Brigade meets
Wednesdays at the Fire Station. Fire Chief: Cara
O'Donnell phone 07 8954600

Hall & Pavilion Bookings Phone 027 3343131 or
email owhangorris@yahoo.co.nz Defibrillator This
is situated on the front of the Owhango Hall. One
is on also on board the Fire Truck.

Owhango Transfer Station is open: Monday 1pm-
5pm. Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday 8am
-12noon. State Highway 4 Owhango.

Owhango Hall update

ORRIS was successful in getting a grant from Empowering communities enhancing lives fund.

We will be adding a French door and a deck to the back of the hall to enhance the light coming into the hall and improving ventilation.

We also applied for community hall grant for painting windows inside and the lines company for installing security lights at the pavilion. Next big project is acoustic in the main hall.



Up & coming events



Mid-winter dinner date
27. July 2024



T42 is on again this year 4.05.24
Great sporting event and great
fundraiser for the community



Anzac Variety Concert
25th April 2024, Taumarunui War
Memorial Hall - 2pm



ANZAC Day Service
Thursday 25th April at
Owhango Hall - 10am
Join us for morning tea.

Owhango Alive Chairperson's Report

Kia ora everyone and welcome to Autumn 2024. The Owhango Alive team have had another busy 3 months, with continued trapping, working bees, visits to other predator control groups and workshops with Cam Speedy – there is always something to learn and refine our “best practice” with trapping and also to network with other groups in our region.

I have always been keen to grow the predator controlled area around our Ohinetonga Scenic Reserve, Owhango village etc. The intent of this growth is that the halo effect offers more and more “safe” areas for our native flora and fauna to grow and thrive. Over the 12 years that I have been involved in OA, there has certainly been a steady growth of other groups, private enterprises and general acknowledgement of the necessity for these predator control groups to keep up this valuable work.

HERE ARE THE NUMBERS OF DESPATCHED PREDATORS FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2024.



The Owhango Alive calendar was, once again, a roaring success, with 270 sold – the most ever! Thanks to all of you who purchased one (or more!). Appreciation also, goes to the generous submitters of the photos and the team who create the calendar. Good work. A special “Thank You” goes to the team at Blue Hill Cafe, who sold over 100 copies of the calendar for us – you rock!

The working bees have continued regularly, with OA volunteers and DOC staff – we’re certainly seeing a difference in the Reserve – but as always, there’s more to be done.

Well, as we head towards the colder climes, I hope you all enjoy the coming autumn months and start of winter – it’s time to hunker down and plan for the coming year. My thanks go to all of you who volunteer, donate and support the team that is Owhango Alive. To get involved or to receive our updates and newsletters, just flick us an email at owhangoalive@yahoo.com

Nga mihi,
Mark Fredericks
Owhango Alive Chairman



2024 Annual Sports Day

On January 21st, we joyously commemorated our beloved sport, Cricket, with a remarkable turnout from our Owhango community. Amidst overcast skies predicted by the weather forecast, we basked in the thrill of the game, scoring numerous runs and reveling in the sheer enjoyment it brought. Despite the weather's gloomy outlook, the day unfolded magnificently, filled with camaraderie and excitement and a great Barbeque!



Mark your calendars for next year's celebration; it's a date worth keeping in January! Join us once again for another unforgettable experience.



Owhango vision 2035

After months of consultation and prioritisation through multiple workshops. We have finalized the community plan. Through these engagements, we actively involved community members and successfully captured the desires of the majority in Owhango. By considering previous plans, surveys, and community wish lists, we ensured to honour the past while building upon existing knowledge and insights. Attached is the community vision 2035, titled "United in Nature, Cultivating our Community," along with a timeline spanning 10 years.

This marks the beginning of our journey, and we commit to reviewing the document annually to incorporate new ideas and evolving priorities. Feel free to send us an email with your thoughts and join the AGM this year for a deep dive of the plan.

Sustainable Community Enhancement (Owhango Features)

This plan is organized into five overarching themes, each carefully curated to address different facets of our community life:

Culture, People, and Community

Building foundations for connection, preserving our history, and fostering community identity.

Accessibility and Connectivity

Enhancing accessibility and embracing technology for seamless community connection.

Outdoors, Recreation, and Sport Facilities

Promoting active pursuits, outdoor adventures, and community well-being.

UNITING IN NATURE

CULTIVATING OUR COMMUNITY

Infrastructure Development:

Immediate, short-term, and long-term actions to develop and enhance key aspects of our community infrastructure.

Owhango Memorial Park Update

Progress on Stage 2 has been slow unfortunately. We are still working through issues with Council and Iwi but hoping for a resolve soon.

The planting at the northern end of the Park area has been completed. The larger trees are Prunus Felix Jury, commonly known around here as the Tui Tree. Tui and Bell birds love the nectar from these trees in Spring. Phormium Green Dwarf are scattered around and will also provide food for birds along with the berries of the Corokia Genty's Green.

A big thank you to Paul McGlade and an anonymous donor for covering the cost of the four new Rhododendrons which have been planted and are growing nicely.

We have had three very well attended working bees so far this year. It's fabulous to see so many people coming along and enjoying being involved. A huge thank you to you all.

Many hands make light work, so if you'd like to join in the fun, have a coffee and a bit of a chat we would love to hear from you. Please feel free to call me (Janet) on 027 425 5596



Even the ponies love our park.....enjoying a coffee, some shade and lush green grass.

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